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THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

The National Research Council has the broad mandate of fostering and supporting scientific and industrial research in Canada. The NRC Act assigns to the Council, but does not limit it to, the following functions:

- (1) Employment of Canada's natural resources;
- (2) improvement of technical methods and processes used in Canadian industry;
- (3) maintenance and improvement of the primary physical standards of measurement for Canada;
- (4) setting of standards of quality for material used in public works and standardization of scientific and technical apparatus used in industry and government;
- (5) fostering the carrying-out of scientific and industrial research.

The mandate of NRC is implemented mainly through:

- (1) Operation of research laboratories;
- (2) financial assistance for research activities in Canadian universities;
- (3) financial assistance and promotion of research in industry;
- (4) operation of the National Science Library and the Technical Information Services.

Membership of NRC

The National Research Council of Canada, under the National Research Council Act, consists of the President, the Vice-President (Administration), two Vice-Presidents (Scientific) and not more than 17 other members appointed by the Governor in Council. The Council is a body corporate and is required to meet at least three times a year.

The Council is responsible to a designated minister, who is a member of the Committee of the Privy Council on Scientific and Industrial Research. The Honourable C.M. Drury, President of the Treasury Board, is the present Minister reporting to Parliament for the Council. Except for the four permanent officers, Council members are appointed for a term of three years and serve without salary. Council members are drawn from the senior staff of universities, industry and labour in the effort to achieve a broad base of advice, both as to scientific discipline and regional representation.

Over the years, the executive responsibilities of the statutory Vice-Presidents had become too diffuse and onerous, particularly with the rapid growth of a number of areas of activity. Accordingly, it was considered necessary to institute a more functional organization, with five positions at the vice-presidential level, each with a more clearly defined focus in terms of operational responsibility. Besides providing for improved day-to-day operations, this will give greater opportunity for generation and consideration of policy questions by the executive.

The following appointments have been made recently:

President	W.G. Schneider
Vice-President (Scientific)	R.D. Hiscocks
Vice-President (Scientific)	D.J. LeRoy (effective 1 July 1969)
Vice-President (Administration)	K.F. Tupper
Dé légué Général	L.G. Cook
Executive Director (Laboratories)	D.W.R. McKinley

The Dé légué Général is responsible for programme analysis and review, research policies and planning. One Vice-President (Scientific) is responsible for industrial research assistance and promotion and the other for the Council's awards programme for support of university research. The Executive Director (Laboratories) is responsible for intramural laboratory research operations; and the Vice-President (Administration) for financial and personnel management, with administrative responsibility for administration and research services and for technical information services.

Responsible to the President are an Executive Assistant, Dr. J.R.G. Keyston, the Secretary of the Council, Mr. B.D. Leddy, and the Chief of Information Services, Mr. René Montpetit.

NRC Laboratories

The National Research Council has ten laboratories, dealing with biochemistry, biology, building research, applied chemistry, pure chemistry, mechanical engineering, aeronautical research, radio and electrical engineering, applied physics and pure physics, as well as the Atlantic Regional Laboratory in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the Prairie Regional Laboratory in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

These laboratories carry out long-term, applied and specific project research work in areas for which commercial companies have neither sufficient money nor facilities. Results of research are disseminated through NRC publications which provide an international distribution for scientific information coming out of Canadian laboratories and institutes. Laboratory inventions are patented and made available to Canadian manufacturers.

The Biochemistry Laboratory is concerned with enzymes and protein chemistry, immuno-chemistry, cell biochemistry, and syntheses of biochemical compounds. Individual scientists can and do participate in experiments in more than one of these lines of research, as overlapping and collaborative interests develop. The underlying purpose is to explain the biological activity and function of substances in terms of chemical structures.

The Biology Laboratory conducts programmes of pure and applied research in animal physiology, cytology, food technology, mathematics, and radiation biology.

The provision of a comprehensive research service for the Canadian construction industry is the primary concern of the Division of Building Research. It also serves as the technical research wing of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and, in addition, provides technical and secretarial support to the Associate Committee on the National Building Code.

The Division of Applied Chemistry is concerned with supplying new scientific information for the development of Canada's natural resources and chemical industries.

The work of the Division of Pure Chemistry consists of long-term fundamental investigations in organic, physical and theoretical chemistry designed to provide new basic knowledge.

The Division of Mechanical Engineering works in certain areas of hydraulic and mechanical engineering and naval architecture.

The National Aeronautical Establishment studies aeronautical research problems related to defence and civil aviation, working in co-operation with the Canadian aircraft industry; it also carries out its own research programme.

The work of the Radio and Electrical Engineering Division includes engineering projects of interest to Canadian industry and fundamental research in electrical science.

The work of the Division of Applied Physics is divided between research in areas of physics considered most likely to contribute in a practical way to the Canadian economy and research to improve the accuracy and precision of fundamental physical standards on which all measurements are based.

In the Division of Pure Physics, work is pursued on fundamental problems that have no immediate application but advance the frontiers of knowledge and supply the basis for further progress in the applied fields.

The Atlantic Regional Laboratory is engaged in practical and fundamental studies in chemistry and biology which are related to the resources and industries of the Atlantic Provinces.

One of the aims of the Prairie Regional Laboratory is to develop wider uses for crops grown on the prairies by determining potential uses of crops now in production and by encouraging the production of new crops to meet specific needs.

Other Units

The function of the Space Research Facilities Branch is to develop and provide facilities to meet the needs of the upper-atmosphere and space-research programmes of Canadian scientists in universities and government agencies.

The Division of Administration and Personnel provides administrative, management and plant-engineering services for the entire organization. There are also a financial services office, an administrative planning service, and an office of the General Counsel.

Serving Canadian science generally are the Council's Awards Office, the National Science Library of Canada, the Technical Information Service, and the Liaison Office in London.

The grants-in-aid and scholarships programme is administered by the Awards Office for the support of students and professors in Canadian universities working in various fields of science and engineering. Funds are also provided to the universities for the installation of major items of equipment, and for general research expenditures.

The National Science Library provides communication services of many different kinds to the scientific and industrial communities of Canada, based on one of the world's outstanding collections on science and technology. In addition, it has cable links with other centres throughout the world to expand its scope of reference material. The Library makes available English and French translations of foreign scientific and technical papers prepared in all parts of the world.

The Technical Information Service provides Canadian industry with scientific and technical data on materials, processes and equipment, as well as on industrial engineering problems. The Service also administers the NRC Industrial Research Assistance Programme, which stimulates and promotes industrial research in Canadian manufacturing industries.

The National Research Council of Canada publishes nine primary research journals in the fields of biochemistry, botany, chemistry, earth sciences, geotechnology, microbiology, physics, physiology and pharmacology, and zoology. Original research papers are published by these journals in either French or English. (Instructions to contributors to these journals may be obtained by writing to Editorial Department, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa 7, Canada. A charge of \$20.00 a page must be paid on all papers reporting work done outside Canada.)

NRC maintains a scientific liaison office in London for the exchange of scientific information. The Council has a scientific exchange agreement with the Soviet Academy of Sciences that provides for visits of scientists ranging from three weeks to nine months; it has also accepted responsibility for exchange of Canadian scientists with France under the Cultural Agreement between the Governments of Canada and France. An agreement on scientific exchanges has also been concluded with Brazil.

Canadian Patents and Development Limited, a subsidiary of NRC, patents and licenses new products and processes which come out of NRC research, that of other government departments and agencies, and that of Canadian universities. CPDL initiates and finances the development of many inventions to such a stage that it becomes economically possible for private industry to carry them through to production and sale, thus bridging the gap between research and industry.

(For additional information, write to Information Services Office, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa 7.)

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